

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MEDIA ALERT

For Immediate Release
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OAKWOOD, Ga.

**LANES OPEN ON SR 53 – OVERNIGHT PAVING
CONTINUES**

WHEN: Today

WHERE: SR 53/Mundy Mill Road from Blackshear Place to Walmart

WHAT: Three lanes are now open in each direction of SR 53 from Blackshear Place to Walmart. Two, longer left turn lanes are open from SR 53 east to I-985 north. One, longer left turn lane is open from SR 53 west to I-985 south.

“These new left turn lanes are almost twice as long as the old left turn lanes. In the next 3 weeks the second, left turn lane to 985 south will open. Getting left turners out of Mundy Mill Road will allow traffic to flow much better. It will impact the overall operation of the corridor,” explained DOT District Engineer Russell McMurry.

Overnight paving continues on State Route 53. Crews are adding the top layer of asphalt to the roadway and permanently striping the new asphalt five nights a week. Work is planned Sundays through Thursdays starting at 7 p.m. and working overnight to 6 a.m. Once the inside lane is finished crews will work on the outside lane.

Once paving is complete on SR 53, crews will move to SR 13/Atlanta Highway to pave overnights. “Last week the weather did not cooperate with us. We are planning to work every night this week except Friday and Saturday. It is doubtful paving on SR 13 will be finished before school starts on the 10th,” said McMurry.

Weekday work resume Monday, 10th on I-985 south from 9:30 a. m. to 3:30 p.m. as weather permits. The left or inside lane will be closed starting at the Elachee Bridge to SR 53. Crews will be building and paving shoulders and repairing barrier wall. This work is expected to take about two weeks. Crews will then work northbound in the same area doing the same work.

“We are still on target to have everything finished on this project except for punch list work by Labor Day. Thank you for your patience as we work,” concluded McMurry, DOT District Engineer.

Delays are expected in the work zone. Please avoid the work zone if possible.

Motorists are advised to slow down and use extra caution in the work zone. Speed limits have been reduced and will be strictly enforced. City of Oakwood Police will be on scene.

Georgia DOT urges travelers to call 511 for updated information about this or any other construction project on interstates and state routes. Georgia 511 is a free phone service that provides real-time traffic and travel information statewide, such as traffic conditions, incidents, lane closures, and delays due to inclement weather. Callers also can transfer to operators to request assistance or report incidents 24 hours a day, seven days a week. More information is available at www.511ga.org.

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